Introduction to CARE
Milwaukee
June, 2006

CARE
Community Action for
a Renewed Environment

What is CARE?

CARE is a community-based, community-driven program created to build partnerships to help communities understand and reduce toxic risks from all sources.
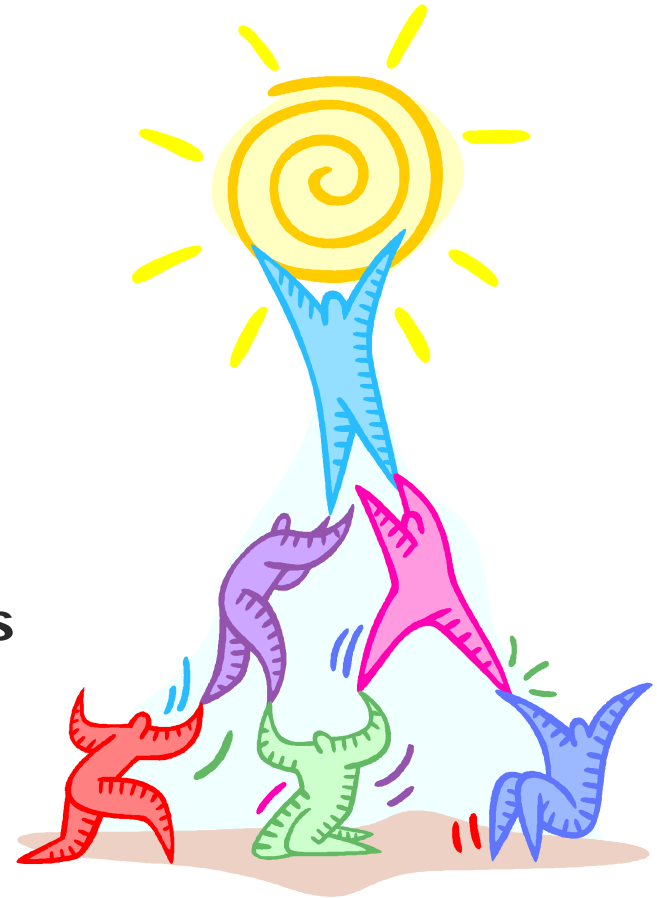
Why CARE?

- Respond to community requests for help
- Develop a means to address concerns that are beyond reach of national regulation
- Integrate agency programs to improve support for communities
- Mobilize new resources and use local knowledge to achieve results
- Develop community consensus on sources of risk and risk reduction options.

CARE Goals

- **Reduce exposures to toxic pollutants through collaborative action at the local level**

- **Help communities gain an understanding of all potential sources of exposure to toxic pollutants**

- **Work with communities to set priorities for risk reduction activities**

- **Create self-sustaining, community based partnerships that will continue to improve the local environment**

How CARE Works

1. Join Together

2. Identify Problems and Solutions

Level I Agreement

EPA Cooperative Agreements & Technical Support

Level II Agreement

4. Become Self-Sustaining

3. Implement Solutions/ Reduce Risks

CARE is More than Money

EPA works directly with communities to provide:

- **Technical support and information**

- **Scientific expertise and assessment**

- **Community planning to help identify and reduce risks**

- **EPA voluntary programs**

- **Networking opportunities**

- **Shared Learning**

Current Status

- **12 communities now at work**:
  - 5 Level Two; 7 Level One
- **17 new communities selected to complete applications**
  - 7 Level Two; 10 Level One
- **FYO7: CARE funding increased again in President's budget**
  - Up to 20 new communities next year

Level II CARE Projects

- National leaders with strong partnerships and identified priorities
- Focused on risk reduction and long term sustainability
- Broad range of issues and approaches
- Key to demonstrating value of CARE program

CARE Contacts

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